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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## Dialysis Mom gives birth to healthy baby!



See story on page 5

## Framework Program 7 of the EU presented at the University of Aruba



Just recently an interesting presentation was made at the University of Aruba in connection with the Framework Program 7 (KP7) of the European Union. Research Officer for Aruba, Humphrey Vrolijk presented ample information about the contents of the program and certain tips on how to participate in the program effectively. The following persons were in attendance at this presentation as representatives of the University of Aruba, namely, Joost Jacobs, Luciano Milliard, Ryan Peterson and Patrick Arens.

The KP7 program of co-operation entails Science, Technology and Innovation. It has a total budget of more than 53 million Euros to be distributed over a 7 year period. The KP7 Program is a European Union program designed to stimulate scientific and technological research to improve the quality of life in

general and to create employment.

The program will finance scientific excellence and welcomes participation from the entire world. It is also a source from which one can receive funds to conduct research.

The University of Aruba desired to receive more information of the program to ascertain how they could improve their participation in the future. Currently they are working on the process for participation in a call for 2012. According to University of Aruba representative, Luciano Milliard, "...it was a splendid presentation and exactly what we needed. Mr. Vrolijk provided us with clear insight into how the program functions; and this for us was a great eye-opener."

The government of Aruba

recently nominated Humphrey Vrolijk Aruba's Research Officer. The European Union within the context of the Eucarinet wishes to have one person from every linguistic region in the Caribbean who could network, dialogue with to improve the participation of every country in this fund. The program requires international collaboration.

With the coming of a research center such as the TNO in Aruba, this gives Aruba a step closer to our participation in this KP7 Program of the European Union. It is believed that the Aruban community stands to benefit from the work to be undertaken by the KP7 Program.

For more information contact: h.vrolijk@aruba.com or Tel. 583-5192.

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## AAA congratulates Mr. Keith "Jamaica" Edwards



On December 15th, 2011, AAA NV presented Mr. Keith Edwards, better known at the airport as "Jamaica", with a well-deserved token of congratulation and appreciation for his well-deserved receipt of a Special Recognition Shoco Award during the Shoco Awards 2011 event last week. Mr. Edwards is a fine example of customer friendliness at its best to our passengers when they arrive in Aruba. Always in a good mood, come rain or shine, and always willing to assist everyone upon their arrival on our island. AAA NV is proud to have such a specially recognized person as a member of its airport community. Congratulations once again Mr Edwards and keep up the good work!



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## ELMAR gets first "Hybrid Solar Auto" in Aruba

Ing. Robert Henriquez, Director of Aruba's electric distribution company, ELMAR, this past week received the keys from Garage Cordia for the first BYD F3DM (Dual Mode) "Hybrid Solar Auto." The "Hybrid Solar Auto" is equipped with a solar sun roof. Present at the presentation of this new innovative cost-saving vehicle were ELMAR's customer Relations Manager, Wanda Broeksema, and Chief Commercial Officer of Garage Cordia, Mr. Honman Chow.

The Hybrid Solar Auto is capable of running on gasoline as well as on electricity. The driver can operate the vehicle using both sources of energy. The two engines provide complete force until the vehicle reaches 20% which is the level for charging the batteries. After the engine reaches this barrier, it changes automatically into the "hybrid mode."

The vehicle comes equipped with a button that allows the driver to choose to switch to electricity that will allow the auto to reach an average of 64 to 97km per hour for a distance of almost 480km when it is fully charged.

A solar panel is affixed to the roof of the car which absorbs solar energy that automatically charges the battery. Aruba's constant sun is the ideal climate which will result in a tremendous saving on gasoline.

Charging the battery at home will take more or less 9 hours! The battery is good for 2000 charges. The F3DM consumes around 16kWh for every 100 km driven.

Operational cost of this type of vehicle in the United States is calculated to be between US\$1.44 and US\$2.72 for every 100 km. This is based on the residential electricity tariff of the US which



varies between 9 to 17 cents per kWh.

There are no concrete estimates for Aruba at this time.

ELMAR will begin testing this vehicle to evaluate its maximum capacity in our particular environment.



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## Fatum celebrates the Season at El Gaucho



Fatum General insurance NV, established in Aruba since 2009, is one of the largest insurance companies in the

Dutch Caribbean offering general-, life-, pension-, and health-insurance solutions. The company celebrated its Christmas Dinner at El Gaucho Argentine Grille this weekend bringing management, employees and special guests together over excellent food and drink.

El Gaucho Argentine Grill located in a row of colonial townhouses on Wilhelminastraat, was the first Argentine restaurant to open its doors in Aruba on February 17th, 1977. The restaurant is preparing to celebrate its 35th anniversary in the upcoming New Year. The famed eatery has been serving a variety of tempting dishes since opening day, promoting quality Argentine steaks, which is tender and juicy, charcoal-grilled to perfection. The restaurant menu also boasts delicious seafood including fresh local catch, sea bass and shrimp.

In the Summer Garufa Cocktail Lounge underwent an extensive refresh and remodeling. Fatum's General Insurance NV guests enjoyed a late night party at the new Garufa, after dinner.



## New Year's Eve Dinner

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| Café Moka's        | Happy Island      | Kok Optica           | Maute Grill      | Starbucks       | Tous           |
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| Converse           | Happy Monkey      | La Boutique          | NoBushy          | Le Bistro       | Zissles        |
| Cristalida         | Havana Nines      | La Creperie de Paseo | Pandora Boutique | Taste of Heaven |                |
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The warmth and joy of Christmas, brings us closer to each other.

Author: Emily Matthews

## Aruba Marriott appoints new Executive Chef Alejo Garcia

### Preparing for the Holiday Season

The Aruba Marriott proudly announces the appointment of Executive Sous Chef Alejo Garcia to Executive Chef for the three Aruba Marriott properties.

Alejo joined the Marriott company in 1999 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Buenos Aires as Kitchen assistant and transferred in 2002 to JW Marriott Miami where he worked for a year as Cook to learn the ins and outs of a 5-star kitchen. He continued his journey in 2003 to Marriott Los Suenos Ocean and Golf Resort in Costa Rica, where he worked for 2 years as Sous Chef.

After working one year at the JW Marriott Hotel in Quito, Ecuador, Alejo wanted to experience the island lifestyle and transferred in 2006 to Frenchmen's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort, in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands as Sous Chef.

"The Aruba Marriott welcomed Alejo on November 14, 2008 to our Resort as our Executive Sous Chef. In the last three years he has grown to be a great leader, shared

his passion for food and shown his skills and talents in the kitchen," a spokesperson said.

Chef Alejo and his team invite you for the holidays to celebrate these joyous days in La Vista restaurant. On December 25th a sumptuous brunch and a fabulous dinner awaits you.

The Sunday Christmas brunch offers a wide range of breakfast items and menu items such as the oven roasted turkey, fettuccini alfredo with grilled chicken and home made pizza's. The Christmas brunch is available from 7:00 am – 3:00 pm at \$37.00 per person, kids age 6-12 half price and kids 0-5 eat free.

The Christmas dinner buffet starts at 5:30 till 10:30pm and include a festive variety of traditional menu items including the honey ham, grilled salmon, garlic spiked prime rib, baked four cheese pasta and more. The Christmas dinner can be enjoyed at \$54.95. Kids 5-12 half price and 0-5 free.

The Aruba Marriott warmly welcomes everyone to La Vista to celebrate the holiday season.



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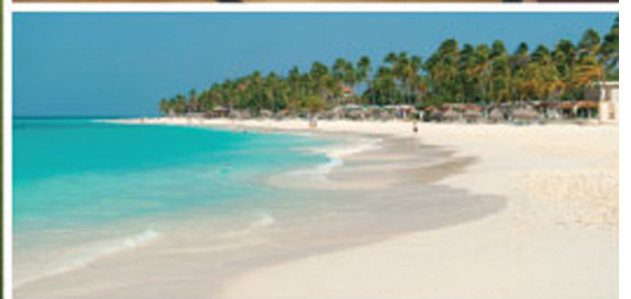




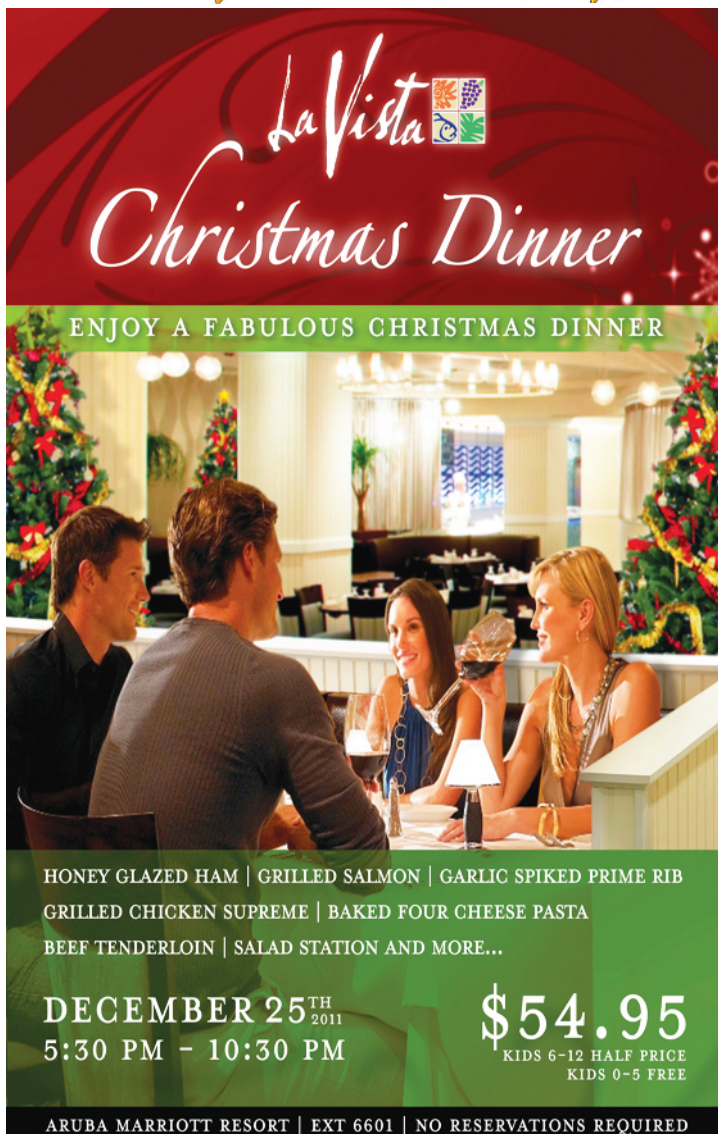
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## Dialysis Mom gives birth to healthy baby!

On Saturday, December 17, a team of medical specialists teamed up together on a very unique birth delivery. The new Mom, Susi Petrochi and Dad Ricky Wever are proud parents today of a baby boy, named, Rishon, who saw daylight for the first time at 11:57am. Rishon was born after 36 weeks weighing in at 1905 grams. What made this birth so unique is that the mother is a dialysis patient who has been undergoing twice weekly dialysis even before she became pregnant. For this reason it was necessary to form a team of specialist to ensure a successful delivery.

It is a known fact worldwide that the combination of Dialysis and pregnancy is very risky. The normal pregnancy term in these cases is 30 weeks, but they succeeded in reaching 36 weeks which is the time span that a baby is expected to be fully developed.

A few days before delivery the patient was admitted to the Hospital to maintain an intensive control on her and on the baby. On the 17th of December a team of medical specialists made the decision to not wait

any longer because the weight of the baby was not increasing. The team of specialists consisted of Nephrologist Dr. Romeo Kock, Gynecologist Dr. Wouter Huisman, Pediatrician Dr. Joel Raynherc and Anesthesiologist Dr. Ovidio Perez.

During the pregnancy the Gynecologist consistently monitored the situation while the Nephrologist treated the patient with Dialysis. Early on they alerted the Anesthesiologist of the situation so that he could be on the alert of the situation. In the same fashion they alerted the Pediatrician so that the moment the baby is born he could take charge of the care of the newborn baby.

A team of 18 members of the staff were involved during the treatment of the patient and her baby.

The successful outcome is



certainly attributed to the excellent cooperation and communication between the team of specialists. This was a rather unique delivery which deserves much praise because of its successful outcome.

Accompanying photo shows the new Mom, Susi Petrochi and baby Rishon accompanied by the team of specialists: Anesthesiologist Dr. Ovidio Peres, Nephrologist Dr. Augustin Garcia and Dr. Ann Colsmen, co-assistant of Pediatrician Dr. Wanda Krijnen, Gynecologist Dr. Wouter Huisman and Pediatrician Dr. Rodriguez.



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## EU nations 'dismayed' by new Israeli settlements

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - European Union powers led condemnation by UN Security Council members yesterday of Israel's increased settlements in the occupied territories and growing attacks by settlers on Palestinians.

Britain, France, Germany and Portugal said in a joint statement after a council meeting on the Middle East conflict that they were "dismayed by these wholly negative developments" and the threat they pose to the peace process.

The four council members called for strong measures by the Israeli government to halt attacks on mosques and Palestinians by extremist settlers.

South Africa, India and Brazil launched their own condemnation, while Russia's UN envoy questioned whether a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict was now possible.

The four European countries said Israel's announcements of accelerated settlement building send a "devastating" message, and urged the Jewish state to reverse the plans.

"The viability of the Palestinian state that we want to see and the two-state solution that is essential for Israel's long-term security are threatened by the systematic and deliberate expansion of settlements," added the statement read by Britain's UN Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant.

The Europeans welcomed

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's vow to clamp down on extremists and called "on the Israeli government to fulfill its commitment to bring the perpetrators to justice and to put an end to impunity."

Netanyahu called the attacks on Arabs, mosques as well as Israeli soldiers and police "a stain on Israel's democracy."

The UN ambassadors appeared before reporters after a UN briefing on efforts to bring Israelis and Palestinians back to direct talks, deadlocked since September 2010.

The Palestinian leadership has refused talks while settlement construction goes ahead and, frustrated by the negotiation deadlock, has sought full UN membership in a bid to raise its international profile.

A host of UN members came out to criticize Israel after the briefing.

Speaking for Brazil, India and South Africa, Brazil's UN Ambassador Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti said the emerging powers were "deeply disturbed" by events and called the settlements "a major obstacle to peace."

Russia's UN envoy, Vitaly Churkin, said his government was gravely concerned by the new settlements, which the UN has reaffirmed breach international law. The ambassador said the construction was "clearly putting in question the possibility of the two-state solution."

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## Killer blizzard blankets central US



CHICAGO (AFP) - A massive winter storm blamed for at least six deaths made travel nearly impossible in parts of the central United States yesterday, the National Weather Service said.

"Blizzard conditions that caused fatal accidents and rendered highways impassable in five states crawled deeper into the Great Plains early yesterday," the weather service said.

"Hotels filled up quickly along major roadways from eastern New Mexico to Kansas, and nearly 100 rescue calls came in from motorists in the Texas Panhandle."

Snow drifts reached 10 feet (three meters) in parts of Colorado after strong winds whipped at the 15 inches (38 centimeters) of snow had fallen since the storm began late Sunday.

Parts of New Mexico were blanketed by two feet of snow (61 centimeters) while Kansas got up to a foot of snow (30 centimeters).

While the heaviest snowfall had mostly ended by midday yesterday, blizzard conditions continued in many areas as strong winds of up to 50 miles (80 kilometers) per hour whipped up heavy white flakes, the weather service said.

## Morgan believes no hacking at UK's Mirror tabloid

LONDON (AFP) - CNN chat show host Piers Morgan told the British press ethics inquiry yesterday that he had no reason to believe phone hacking went on at the Daily Mirror during his editorship of the tabloid.

Morgan did not want to elaborate on the circumstances in which he heard a voice message left by Beatles star Paul McCartney on his then-wife Heather Mills.

He said he was never "directly involved" in hiring private investigators at the Mirror, which he edited between 1995 and 2004.

Morgan, who also edited the now-defunct News of the World from 1994 to 1995, gave evidence to the inquiry in London via video-link from the United States. The television show host said he was unaware of any phone hacking

going on at the Mirror under his leadership, saying: "To the best of my recollection, I do not believe so."

"Not a single person has made a formal or legal complaint against the Daily Mirror for phone hacking."

Asked if he had ever seen phone hacking going on, he said "no", adding that he was "100 percent" sure.

The inquiry into the ethics,

culture and practices of the British press, being heard by judge Brian Leveson was set up by Prime Minister David Cameron following the closure of the News of the World in July.

"Have you listened to recordings of what you knew to be illegally obtained voice-mail messages?" Leveson asked Morgan.

The former editor replied: "I don't believe so, no."

Morgan was asked about a voice message he heard which was left by McCartney for Mills when the couple were suffering problems with their marriage.

Morgan refused to tell the inquiry about the details of when he heard the message because he wanted to protect his source.

Asked if it was a voicemail message, Morgan replied: "I believe it was, yes."





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## Blood pressure meds extend long-term life expectancy

WASHINGTON (AFP) - People who took blood pressure medicine during a 1980s clinical trial showed longer life expectancy two decades later than people who took a placebo, a US study said on Tuesday.

The randomized trial included 4,736 patients aged 60 and over who had high blood pressure. Some were given a drug called chlorthalidone and others were given a sugar pill for a 4.5 year period beginning in 1985.

At the end of the Systolic Hypertension in the Elderly Program (SHEP) trial, all participants were advised to begin following the drug regimen.

Recently, researchers in New Jersey decided to go back over the data, in consultation with the National Death Index, to see if the therapy had any impact on long-term life expectancy.

Indeed, they found that those who had taken chlorthalidone lived several months longer than those who had taken the placebo, according to the findings published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Those who took the drug lived 158 days longer before dying of cardiovascular causes than people who had taken the placebo, and 105 days longer when it came to dying of any cause.

"The gain in life expectancy free from cardiovascular death corresponds with one day (0.89 days) gained per month of treatment," said the study.



"For all-cause mortality, the gain in life expectancy from one month of antihypertensive drug treatment was estimated at a half day (0.59 days)."

The study, led by John Kostis of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, should send a "strong message" to patients and doctors about the benefits of anti-hypertensive therapy, it concluded.

Left uncontrolled, high blood pressure -- defined as 140/90 mmHg (millimeters of mercury) or above most of the time -- can lead to heart failure, stroke, and kidney disease.

About one in three US adults has hypertension, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The research was funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute on Aging, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

## Health & Living

# France may order 30,000 women to remove implants



PARIS (AFP) - Up to 30,000 French women and perhaps tens of thousands more around the world may need to have defective breast implants removed after several suspicious cancer cases, officials said.

A decision on whether to order the removal of the implants, produced by the Poly Implant Prothese (PIP) company, will be made by the end

of the week, after a report from the National Cancer Institute on December 23.

Quoting several senior medical officials, French newspaper Liberation reported Tuesday that the decision had already been made and that health authorities will order the implants to be removed.

It was not immediately clear how many foreign women have been given PIP products but the firm was once the world's third-largest producer of silicone implants, producing 100,000 per year and exporting 80 percent of its output.

Liberation said 300,000 women around the world had received PIP implants.

PIP was shut down and its product banned last year after it was revealed to have been

using non-authorized silicone gel that caused abnormally high rupture rates of its implants.

Health officials said last week that eight cases of cancer, mainly breast cancer, had been reported in women who had received the PIP implants.

"It is urgent for all women who have PIP implants to return to see their surgeons," Pecresse, the French government spokeswoman, told LCI television, adding that costs of removal would be covered by state health insurance.

She said that, before the government announces its action plan this week, "we must first of all proceed with a census of women who received these implants and are potentially in danger."

*continues on page 09*

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## Sci-Tech

### Taiwan's HTC hails US Apple patent ruling

TAIPEI (AFP) - Taiwan's leading smartphone maker HTC on Tuesday hailed a victory following a "better-than-expected" US ruling that it had partially infringed a patent owned by the US technology giant Apple.

The US International Trade Commission on Monday ordered HTC to stop importing by April 19 smartphones in to the United States that used certain patents by Apple.

However, the commission said HTC had violated just one of the several patents claimed by Apple in a complaint filed by US firm in March last year.

The decision reversed a previous ruling that HTC had broken multiple claims of two separate patents.

"This decision is a win for HTC... We are very pleased with the determination and we respect it," the company said in a statement.

The news was welcomed by investors, with HTC shares closing up by their seven percent daily limit at Tw\$476.0 in Taipei trading.

HTC described the patent it had broken as a "small user interface experience" and it would "completely remove it from all of our phones soon", meaning it was unlikely to affect the firm's sales in the United States too much.

"The outcome of the final ruling is better than the market had expected, as most of the affected items were old models the company put on the market last year," said Mars Hsu of Grand Cathay Securities.

"Besides, I believe HTC has sufficient time to make adjustments on its design and marketing strategy before April 19."

HTC touts its own brand of smartphones and also makes handsets for a number of leading US companies, including Google's Nexus One.

Patent lawsuits are a regular occurrence among technology giants. Apple is currently being sued by Finland's Nokia for patent infringement, and has fired back a countersuit against the mobile phone giant.

*We make a living by what we receive, but we make a life by what we give*

**brasa 2012...**

# SINTI Y COMPARTI

Nos ta desea un y tur feliz dlanan di fiesta y un 2012 den bon salud y yen di inspiracion

**ennia**



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## France may order 30,000 women ..... continued from page 08

Prosecutors in Marseille, near the firm's home base of Seyne-sur-Mer, have received more than 2,000 complaints from women who received the implants and have opened a criminal investigation into the firm.

Laurent Lantieri, one of France's best-known cosmetic surgeons and a member of a health department committee on the issue, told Liberation there was no choice but to order the implants' removal.

"We all agree on the necessity of this decision," he said.

"We are facing a health crisis linked with a fraud. The entire profession is aware of this. There is no urgency but we no longer have any choice -- all these implants must be removed."

So far 523 women who received PIP implants have had them removed, Liberation said.

The newspaper quoted France's director general for

health, Jean-Yves Grall, as saying that while the state would cover the costs of removing implants, it would not pay for implanting new ones unless the women involved had reconstructive

surgery following a mastectomy.

"This does not shock me," Lantieri said. "It is not up to society, in a time of crisis, to pay for a new implant for aesthetic reasons."



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## COMICS

## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



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## ACROSS

1. "\_\_\_ homo"
5. Snorts of laughter
8. Toward the rear of a ship
13. Eye-worms, in Africa
14. Floating menagerie
15. White poplars
16. Hops drier
17. Straight at the mark
19. Nuisance
20. 430-foot-high rock on the Rhine
21. "The King and I" locale
23. Chinese restaurant beverage
24. \_\_\_ Dinh
27. Puts at risk
30. Jupiter, e.g.

## DOWN

32. Interval
33. Fish that didn't get away
34. UN group: abbr.
36. Not Dem. or Rep.
37. Home of the Fighting Tigers: abbr.
39. Yet, for short
40. Wholly
42. \_\_\_ and home
44. Mathematical ratio
45. Had a first showing
48. NYC's Grand Central, e.g.
49. Stephen of "Angie"
50. Fool
51. Cheetos flavoring
55. Greek letter
57. Direct

## ACROSS

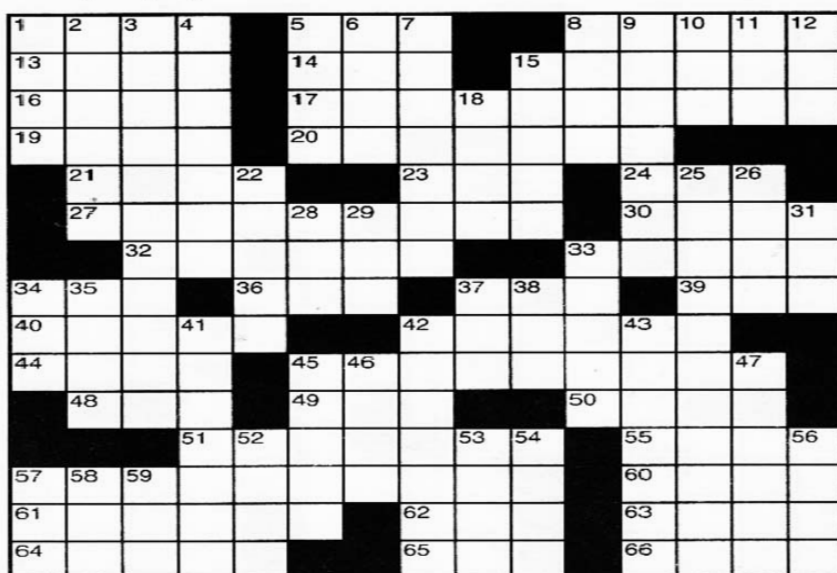
60. Impostor
61. They bill and coo
62. Weather Channel abbr.
63. Single thing
64. The former Mrs. Cugat
65. Cooking fuel
66. Capital of Manche

## DOWN

1. "Time Machine" race
2. Grainy
3. Specific instance
4. Platform
5. Single: prefix
6. Irish exclamation
7. Avoided
8. Lane who was married to

## SCORECARD

9. Former Go-Go Carlisle
10. Dixie abbr.
11. Bog
12. Judgmental cluck
15. Rand's "\_\_\_ Shrugged"
18. Not once, to a poet
22. Osmond Brothers' sister
25. Understand
26. Cry of pain
28. Famed diarist
29. Decide victim
31. HBO competitor
33. Healed
34. Those in Mensa have high ones
35. Boxer Firpo
37. Moon vehicle: abbr.
38. Capuchin monkey
41. Miss Grundy, for one
42. Caption's kin
43. "\_\_\_ and Cressida"
45. Studies, for short
46. Decorate again
47. Go over with a Q-Tip, at the car wash
52. Indiana Jones or Superman, e.g.
53. Tennis's Kournikova
54. Roads: abbr.
56. Musician Lindsay
57. Nurturance: abbr.
58. Awed exclamation
59. Power agcy.



## BOTICA

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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

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Care Center  
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Telephone  
Numbers

## HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital  
Tel. 5274000

## EMERGENCY

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POLICE HDQS  
Telephone 100

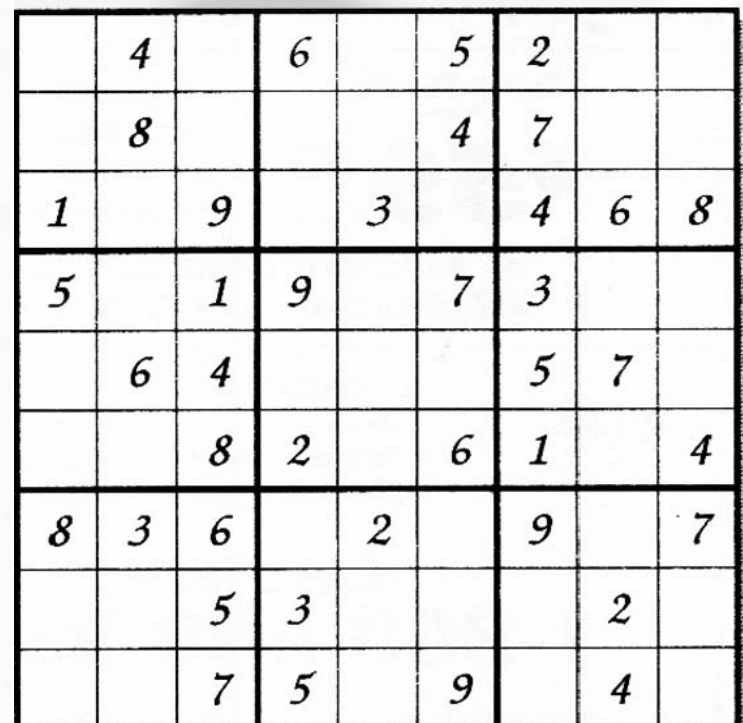
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 |
| 1 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 5 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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kalinbar@hotmail.com

## Finance

# Car makers risk 10 bn euro fine for EU carbon breach

PARIS (AFP) - A handful of carmakers risk potential fines of 10 billion euros (\$13 billion) for failing to meet European targets on carbon emissions in 2012, the European Environment Agency (EEA) said yesterday.

"If car manufacturers make no further improvements in carbon efficiency of new cars between 2010 and 2012, non-compliant manufacturers could face fines which in total would add up to 10 billion euros," the EAA said.

Large auto manufacturers face being fined if they fail to meet a directive for lowering emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2), the principal greenhouse gas.

The emissions target across the industry is an average of 130 grams of CO2 per kilometer per new passenger vehicle. Within this collective target, companies have individual goals based on the average of

their fleet.

From 2012, 65 percent of a company's newly-registered cars in the European Union must meet the target. In 2013, the threshold will rise to 75 percent, to 80 percent in 2014 and finally 100 percent in 2015.

As of 2010, 32 manufacturers representing almost 80 percent of new registrations achieved the 2012 objective, the Copenhagen-based agency said in a report.

Those in front are Japan's Toyota, followed by the French companies Renault and Peugeot-Citroen, which also are between just one and five grams short of their 2015 targets.

Laggards are Daimler, Skoda, General Motors-Daewoo, Nissan, Mazda and Dacia.

"Today, people use many forms of transport but cars still represent a big part of everyday life," EAA Executive Director Jacqueline McGlade

said.

"The data show that most car manufacturers have already met their individual 2012 targets. However, several others need to continue their current trend of year-on-year efficiency improvements."

The directive offers flexibility to manufacturers who introduce cars with very low -- less than 50 grams of CO2 per kilometer -- emissions, who make vehicles that run on E85 biofuels or who use experimental CO2-reducing technology.

Road transport accounts for 17.5 percent of Europe's overall greenhouse gas emissions which increased by 23 percent between 1990 and 2009, the EAA said.

In 2010, the average emission level of a new car registered in the 27 EU nations was 140.3 grams of CO2 per kilometer, compared with the EU 2020 target of 95 grams.

# Obama warns economy at risk in tax fight

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama yesterday warned the "fragile" US economy could be impacted by a failure to extend a payroll tax cut, and called on Republicans to reverse their refusal to act now.

"Right now the recovery is fragile but it is moving in the right direction," Obama told reporters at the White House after House Republicans blocked a Senate compromise to extend the tax break for two months.

The impasse "could have

effects not only on families but on the economy as a whole," Obama said.

The Republican-controlled House did not specifically vote down a Senate compromise on the measure, but agreed by 229 votes to 193 to appoint a team of negotiators to broker a new compromise bill with senators.

But since the unemployment benefits for around two million jobless workers expire at the end of the month, and payroll taxes are set to increase from 4.2 percent to 6.2 percent, the move sparked year-


end political uproar.

"Right now the bipartisan compromise that was reached on Saturday is the only viable way to prevent a tax hike on January 1," Obama said.

"Let's not play brinkmanship, the American people are weary of it, they are tired of it... I am calling on the speaker and the House Republican leadership to bring the Senate bill up for a vote," Obama said.

## YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

|           |           |        |
|-----------|-----------|--------|
| SAFE      | BASS      | EQUIP  |
| PEAT      | UNIT      | MUNRO  |
| ORCHESTRA | BADEN     |        |
| TOTALS    | TEAROSE   |        |
| NAT       | HEART     |        |
| IFS       | POLO      | TSETSE |
| NAP       | SPASMS    | TRAM   |
| SIEGE     | STE       | PSALM  |
| ETAL      | THENAR    | IVE    |
| THRESH    | SALE      | LET    |
| EPICS     | AFL       |        |
| DESCEND   | SALAAM    |        |
| INALL     | ROCKBANDS |        |
| MOGUL     | OKRA      | MORG   |
| SLOBS     | MAIN      | ANAT   |



**Daily  
Exchange Rates**

| Current as of:<br>12/20/2011 | Currency<br>Code | Buying<br>rate<br>banknotes | Buying<br>Cheques | Selling<br>Rate |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| U.S.A.                       | USD              | 1.77                        | 1.78              | 1.80            |
| Dutch Antilles               | ANG              | 98.00                       | 100.00            | 100.20          |
| Canada                       | CAD              | 1.70                        | 1.72              | 1.74            |
| Britain                      | GBP              | 2.72                        | 2.77              | 2.83            |
| Switzerland                  | CHF              | 190.83                      | 191.55            | 192.35          |
| Netherlands                  | EUR              | 230.75                      | 232.85            | 235.19          |
| Sweden                       | SEK              | 24.95                       | 25.67             | 26.47           |
| Denmark                      | DKK              | 30.36                       | 31.08             | 31.88           |
| Norway                       | NOK              | 29.24                       | 29.96             | 30.76           |
| Japan                        | JPY              | 226.49                      | 228.56            | 230.85          |

(per 10,000)

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# Heading abroad, Venezuela's Chavez eyes Mercosur

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, making his first official trip abroad since his cancer treatment, yesterday pressed for his country's membership in the South American trade group Mercosur.

Chavez told journalists at the Mercosur summit meeting in Montevideo that it would be "very positive" to expand the South American customs union to the Caribbean in the north and to the Pacific, with the addition of Ecuador.

Venezuela's membership was approved by the presidents of the four member states -- Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay -- but the addi-

tion has not been ratified by Paraguay's legislature.

Ecuador is among the associate members of the group and its president, Chavez ally Rafael Correa, is also pressing for full membership.

Mercosur, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, is struggling to find its direction amid a tumultuous global economic situation.

Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Almagro said Jose Mujica of Uruguay and Fernando Lugo of Paraguay agreed to a "common position" that seeks to "move forward" on the membership of Venezuela.



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## American Home Assurance Company is being re-branded as Chartis Insurance



Frendsel Giel, Prakash Gupta, Min. Dowers, Niti and Aparna Gupta



Min. Visser with Jansens & Guptas



Min. Visser with Gupta family



Baptizing the uniform of Chartis Volvox

First operations of American Home Assurance company in Aruba started in the year 1940. Previously the Company operated as Senaco, AIU Aruba N. V., Bob Steel Insurance Agency and then as American Home Assurance Company. American Home is fully owned subsidiary of AIG. AIG has decided to incorporate Chartis Insurance as a worldwide Holding Company for its General insurance operations.

Recently American Home Assurance Company has re-branded as Chartis d.b.a. American Home Assurance with an intention to incorpo-

rate a local Chartis legal entity in early course.

At this occasion, American Home also re-branded its volleyball team of S. V. Volvox to Chartis S. V. Volvox. The new uniforms of Chartis S. V. Volvox were baptized by the Minister of Health and Sports Mr. Richard Visser. On behalf of the Board of the Volvox, Mr. Ruben Krozendijk thanked Mr. Prakash Gupta for all the great support received by the team for the last 11 years. Volvox is also very glad that Chartis continues its support to the team which has achieved many honors for Aruba.



## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline

pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



## Haute Cuisine in Palm Beach? Very AMUSE-ing!



Patrick and Yvette welcome you

Our taste testers at THE MORNING NEWS have just enjoyed the most amazing, amusing dining experience, conveniently located in Palm Beach, in a cozy, attractive bistro at the Playa Linda Resort. Chef Patrick and his wife Yvette welcome you to Amuse, their French inspired bistro, where they share their passion for fine food and the classic art of cooking, enhances with a dash of Caribbean flare.

Patrick has opened his own place after years of establishing the reputation of some of Aruba's finest restaurants. He is adamant about creating his sauces and specialties strictly from scratch; nothing is out of the box or can and all ingredients are fresh - he even grows his

own herbs and spices, and believe it or not, churns his own fresh made ice cream daily! Imagine a sumptuous desert of the creamiest

Red Wine Ice Cream

served up with a rich, moist, brownie, or Pineapple Carpaccio with fresh churned Cinnamon Ice Cream, and you have a finish for your dinner that will have you returning again the next day to try one of his other remarkable specialties.

Patrick is well aware that a memorable meal is a feast for all the senses, and his dishes are as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate and your wallet. One would expect to pay very high prices for such effort, but their menu is quite reasonably priced. Amuse also provides the option of selecting a dish in main course or half plate, appetizer size,

which is very nice if you would prefer to taste a wide sample of their delectable offerings. The restaurant also prides itself on an excellent wine cellar to provide the perfect pairing for the gourmet food. Menus change to some degree with the seasons, taking advantage of what is fresh and best for the time of year.

Amuse is named for the tradition of an "amuse-bouche" a chef's selection for something special to tantalize the taste buds, and patrons will find it a most appropriate moniker, as Patrick's exceptional sauces and artful presentation will provide a most memorable meal.



Amuse is open daily for dinner from 5:30 to 10:30 PM.

However, if wishing to dine at peak hours, Yvette recommends calling 586-9949 for reservations well ahead; they are happy to take walk-ins anytime before 7:30 PM.

The charming logistics of the bistro allows patrons to enjoy the al fresco ambiance of a Parisian sidewalk café while still being protected from the weather; it is rightfully becoming quite a popular place to savor fine dining combined with Aruba's tropical ambiance.



\* Bring this ad to receive a free orange juice

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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## Football: Barca still a cut above in time of crisis for Liga

PARIS, (AFP) - Real Madrid and Barcelona will always be judged by how well they perform against each other, and in that regard a mere glance at the results of the year's seven Clasicos would suggest that not too much has changed in 12 months.

Barcelona have been dominant ever since Pep Guardiola took over as coach in 2008, and on December 10 the Catalans displayed tremendous nerve to come from behind and beat Real Madrid 3-1 at the Bernabeu.

The result was not enough for them to end 2011 on top of La Liga -- Madrid are three points clear -- but the defending champions proved that they remain the team to beat.

In late November 2010 the Madrid camp was in shock after their 5-0 hammering at the Camp Nou.

But while Madrid and Mourinho have made real progress since then, in seven Clasicos this year -- two in La Liga, two in the Champions League, two in the Spanish Supercup, and the Copa del Rey final -- Barcelona have won three, while Madrid have won just one.

That one victory came in extra-time in the Copa del Rey final in April, when a brilliant Cristiano Ronaldo header handed Real the Cup for the first time in 18 years.

However, Mourinho insisted recently that if he could only win one Clasico in 2011,

it would always have been the Copa final, because there was a trophy on offer.

"You cannot call our year a failure when we are on top of the table, having reached the semi-finals of the Champions League and won the Cup last season," said a defiant Mourinho.

Questions could be asked about Barcelona's hunger after another exceptional year in which five trophies were won, including a third straight league title and another Champions League.

However, Guardiola's side have proven time and again that finding motivation is not a problem, and the mere presence of Mourinho in the enemy dugout keeps them going.

Guardiola deserves enormous credit for refusing to rest on his laurels and overseeing the tactical evolution of his team in an attempt to stay one step ahead.

Guardiola is also helped by being able to call on Lionel Messi, and the Argentine's individual battle with Ronaldo has been fascinating.

The two best players in the world continue to score goals at an astonishing rate -- both netted 53 goals in all competitions in 2010-11, and both average more than a goal a game this season.

While Messi has 17 in the league so far, Ronaldo has 20.

But the gap between Barcelona and Real Madrid

and the rest continues to widen.

The big two can rely on television revenue that far outstrips that of the rest of the division, and the other clubs have made moves to push for a new collective TV deal.

Even if they invariably are, the rest should not be forgotten.

As Villarreal president Fernando Roig said: "I'd like to see Madrid and Barcelona have a league that consists only of the clasicos -- that would be pretty boring."

He is right, but the global economic financial crisis has hit hard -- Valencia have lost David Villa, David Silva and Juan Mata in the last 18 months, but remain the third-best team in the country.

Sevilla, Atletico Madrid, and Villarreal can no longer compete, while a large proportion of La Liga clubs have no shirt sponsor.

## Suarez Banned.....

continued from page 15

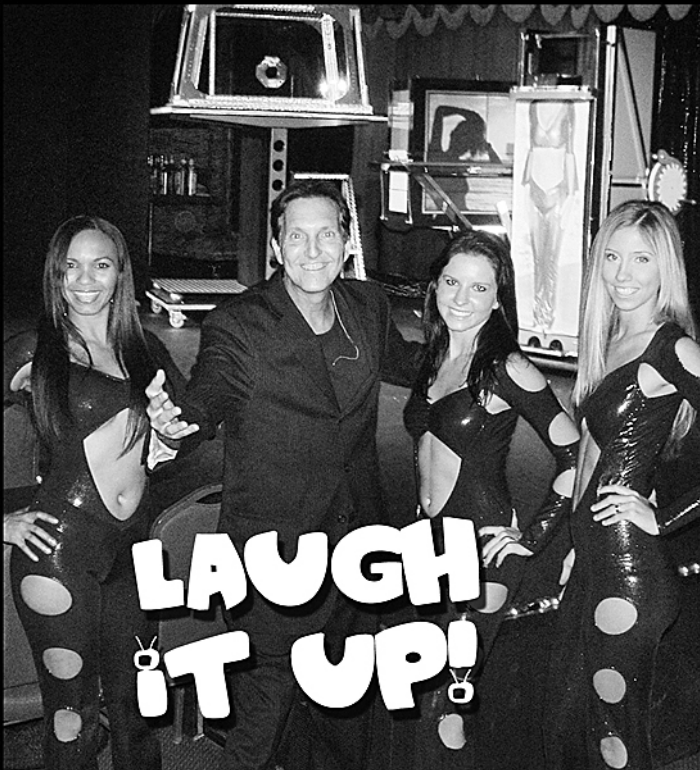
"The insulting words used by Mr Suarez included a reference to Mr Evra's colour within the meaning of Rule E3(2);

"Mr Suarez shall be warned as to his future conduct, be suspended for eight matches covering all first team competitive matches and fined the sum of £40,000;

"The (penalty) is suspended pending the outcome of any appeal lodged by Mr Suarez against this decision."

Suarez always denied the charge and Liverpool were firm in support of their player, with manager Kenny Dalglish saying last week: "We are standing right beside him and helping him as much as we possibly can."

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**BOX OFFICE OPENS: 8:00PM**

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\*Scrambled with ham, cheese, onions, green pepper, tomato, mushroom

\*Plain omelettes with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper, tomato, mushroom

All egg dishes are served with a choice of : white or whole wheat baguette or sliced toasted bread.

\*PASTECHEI HORNA

\*CRÊPES

\*SWEET CRÊPES

\*BAGEL with cream cheese, smoked salmon, boiled egg

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## Defensive skill ....

continues from page 16

Suisham was wide left on a 48-yard field goal attempt for

the Steelers with 54 seconds to go in the third quarter and the 49ers, the NFL's best at forcing turnovers, recovered a Roethlisberger fumble early in the fourth quarter to set up a five-yard touchdown run by Frank Gore for the final points.

"That was 49er football," Mike Tomlin said. "They created turnovers. They controlled the ball offensively. They did what they needed to do."

The Steelers' defensive unit was without linebacker James Harrison, who was serving a one-game ban for a helmet-to-facemask hit last week.



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## Suarez banned for racially abusing Evra

LONDON (AFP) - Liverpool striker Luis Suarez was hit with an eight-game ban on Tuesday after a Football Association disciplinary hearing found he had racially abused Manchester United's Patrice Evra.

An unusually lengthy hearing that started last Wednesday, which itself followed a month long investigation, eventually determined Suarez -- who was also fined £40,000 -- had abused Evra during a 1-1 Premier League draw at Anfield on October 15.

Evra, speaking to French television station Canal Plus immediately after the match, said Suarez had racially abused him "more than 10 times" during the game.

"I was very upset," Evra said. "In 2011 you can't say things like this. He knows what he said, the ref knows it, it will come out.

"I won't repeat what he said, but it was a racist word, and he said it more than ten times. He tried to wind me up. I won't make a huge deal out of it, but it's very upsetting and disappointing."

And the FA disciplinary panel agreed with Evra, their statement Tuesday saying: "An independent regulatory commission has today found a

charge of misconduct against Luis Suarez proven, and have issued a suspension for a period of eight matches as well as fining him £40,000, pending appeal."

The commission's ruling stated: "Mr Suarez used insulting words towards Mr Evra during the match contrary to FA Rule E3(1);

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## Defensive skill sparks 49ers past Steelers

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - San Francisco's top-rated defense forced four turnovers from Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger and the 49ers beat the Steelers 20-3 on Monday in an NFL game hit twice by stadium power outages.

The playoff-bound foes nearly needed candlelight at Candlestick Park. The start was delayed 20 minutes after an electric transformer exploded 25 minutes before kickoff and play stopped for 16 minutes after a second-

quarter blackout.

San Francisco improved to 11-3, matching New Orleans for second in the National Conference in the fight for a first-round playoff bye and a home-field edge in the second round.

The 49ers have already clinched their first winning season, division title and playoff berth since 2002.

"It was a big game. It was a game about respect," 49ers quarterback Alex Smith said. "We knew it was going to be a battle. Our defense played great and we came out on top. We're playing well right now."

The Steelers, who entered in control of their playoff destiny, fell to 10-4 and dropped level with Baltimore atop the AFC North division, needing a loss by the rival Ravens for any hope of claiming a division title and first-round bye.

"We had an opportunity. We didn't seize it," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "We will accept responsibility for that."

Steelersquarterback Roethlisberger started despite a sprained left ankle, wearing a custom-made brace, but was intercepted three times and lost a fumble as well to help spark the 49ers' attack.

"Him not being as mobile as he wanted hurt them a little bit," said 49ers defensive end Justin Smith. "We took advantage of it."

David Akers kicked field goals of 22 and 38 yards to give the 49ers a 6-0 half-time lead, each scoring drive being set up by an interception of a Roethlisberger pass.

Stadium lights went out 2:47 into the second quarter, halting the game until power could be restored and lights illuminated once again.

"It was unusual," Alex Smith said. "You don't expect to have to deal with that once let alone twice. It wasn't too bad. It was the same for both teams."

Added Justin Smith, "For everybody out here, I don't think it was a big deal."

The NFL's top top scoring defense lived up to its reputation, keeping the Steelers out of the end zone. The 49ers have not allowed a rushing touchdown all season, the first time any NFL club has gone 14 games without doing so.

"That's huge. Congratulations to our defense for that," 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh said. "The turnovers were really huge for our offense. It was really great for our guys coming up with four turnovers."

Pittsburgh's Shaun Suisham booted a 51-yard field goal 8:52 into the third quarter to lift the Steelers within 6-3.

But the 49ers answered by marching 79 yards with Vernon Davis catching a one-yard touchdown pass from Alex Smith to boost the 49ers' lead to 13-3 with 3:44 remaining in the third quarter.

*continues on page 15*



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